alta vista terrace

LANDMARK DISTRICT

JOSEPH C. BROMPTON, ARCHITECT

PART I —
NOT ON-LINE
SAVE TO PC FILES

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION: PART I

SIGNIFICANCE OF DISTRICT TO CHICAG
HISTORIC BACKGROUND
PHYSICAL DESCRITION OF DISTRICT
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

ALTA VISTA TERRACE LANDMARK DISTRICT

one-block-long street, running north-south,
located at 3800 north, 1050 west
Chicago, Illinois

(Runs between West Grace Street on the
south and West Byron Street on the north,
parallel to and between North Kenmore Avenue
on the east and North Seminary Street on the west.)

Date of Development: 1900-1904

Architect: ~~Unknown~~ at present time
JOSEPH C. BROMPTON, ARCHITECT

Landmark Site (legal description of property):

All improvements within the public rights-of-way within the boundaries of:

> The north line of West Byron Street; the east line of the alley next east of and parallel to Alta Vista Terrace; the south line of West Grace Street; the west line of North Seminary Street.

Also, the following privately-owned property, all located within the above boundaries:

> Lots 1 through 40 in Southeast Gross's Addition to Buena Park, being a Subdivision of all that part of Block 2 lying west of alley running north and south through said Block 2 of Block 6. Laflin, Smith and Dyer's Subdivision of West 1/2, North 1/4, Section 20, Township 40 North, Range 14, East of the Third Principal Meridian.

Significance of District to Chicago:

Hidden away in a nondescript neighborhood, Alta Vista Terrace is a street out of the past, a block-long microcosm of turn-of-the-century charm and dignity and architectural eclecticism. It is lined by 40 small, single-family rowhouses, 20 on each side of the street.

Begun in 1900 as one of the last real-estate developments of Samuel Eberly Gross, Chicago's merchant prince of additions and subdivisions during the last two decades of the 19th century, its fascinating history endows it with an intangible link to the past fully as important and interesting as its tangible architectural link.

Called by some the "Street of 40 Houses," by others the "Street of 40 Doors," Alta Vista Terrace is a narrow, tree-shaded way lined on both sides with rowhouses having an Old World feeling. To quote Ira J. Bach, author of *Chicago on Foot:*

> "This short block has townhouses on both sides of a narrow street, which might be in Boston or Philadelphia or London. It seems to belong to a past century; it is definitely not a street of today. The well-maintained old houses—constructed at one time by one builder, who gave each house an individuality in design—are like an oasis in the surrounding desert of run-down housing. Most of the residents here are friendly and proud of their homes. Some are willing to show them to visitors."

Stylistically, many of the rowhouses of Alta Vista Terrace reflect the Classic renaissance in American architecture spawned by the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. In addition, numerous details reflect adaptations of various architectural styles, including the Gothic and late Renaissance revivals and even—in a later modification of one facade—false half-timbering. In what were originally the 20 different Roman-brick facades of the 40 houses are to be found such divergent architectural motifs as Doric and Ionic wood pilasters, flamboyant Gothic arches, Palladian windows, stained- and leaded-glass fanlights, bay and bow windows, sheet-metal cornices at roof levels, and a wealth of moldings, brackets, dentils, festoons, and other Classic details.

Some renovation and modernization has been done, not all of it in keeping with the original character of the street's design, but the exteriors for the most part have been little changed in the 70 years the houses have stood.

JOHN C. MARCIN, CITY CLERK
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE — CITY OF CHICAGO

WHEREAS, The Commission on Chicago Historical and Architectural Landmarks has recommended that the Area known as the Alta Vista Terrace District, bounded by the North line of West Byron Street, the East line of the alley next East of and parallel to Alta Vista Terrace, the South line of West Grace Street, and the West line of North Seminary Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, be designated by the City Council as a Chicago Landmark; and

WHEREAS, The Commission found that the Alta Vista Terrace District meets the criteria as set forth in Chapter 21, Section 21-64 (b), of the Municipal Code of Chicago, namely:

Its character, interest and value are part of the development, heritage and cultural characteristics of the City of Chicago.

It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the City of Chicago.

It exemplifies the cultural, economic, social and historic heritage of the City of Chicago.

It portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.

It is identified with the work of a master builder whose work has influenced the development of the City of Chicago.

Its unique location and singular physical characteristics represent an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood in the City of Chicago;

and

WHEREAS, The Alta Vista Terrace District is important both historically and architecturally to the City of Chicago. Alta Vista Terrace is a street out of the past, a block-long microcosm of turn-of- the-century charm and dignity and architectural eclecticism. It is lined by 40 small, single-family rowhouses, 20 on each side of the street. The Alta Vista Terrace District has retained much of its original character, charm and visual unity and is one of the most aesthetically pleasing real estate developments of Samuel E. Gross, who was active in the residential development of Chicago in the late 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Alta Vista Terrace is an example of Nineteenth Century Architectural attitude and popular taste of the times. In its facades are to be found such divergent architectural motifs as Doric and Ionic wood pilasters, flamboyant Gothic arches, Palladian windows, stained and leaded glass fanlights, bay and bow windows, sheet metal cornices at roof levels, and a wealth of moldings, brackets, dentils, festoons, and other classic details. Alta Vista Terrace is distinctive; a pleasant area which serves to enhance the City of Chicago. To walk down such a street—or even to catch a glimpse of it from the cross-street at either end—is to be transported briefly to a segment of Chicago's past that is worth remembering. In the words of one of Alta Vista's residents, " Seventy years have passed. Alta Vista has changed very little. Where time has dimmed the once youthful bloom, a new dimension far more important has been added, timeless character. It still remains a street of quiet beauty and tranquility where we can pursue our lives gracefully and graciously and peacefully"; and

WHEREAS, The Commission has concluded that the Alta Vista Terrace District is truly important to Chicago, and deserves to be preserved, protected, enhanced and perpetuated. The Commissioner of Development and Planning of the City of Chicago and the City Council Committee on Cultural and Economic Development have concurred in the Commission's recommendation that the Alta Vista Terrace District be designated as a Chicago Landmark; now, therefore,

Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of Chicago:

SECTION 1. The area known as the Alta Vista Terrace District, bounded by the North line of West Byron Street, the East line of the alley next East of and parallel to Alta Vista Terrace, the South line of West Grace Street, and the West line of North Seminary Avenue, including the publicly-owned property contained within the above-mentioned boundaries, and including the privately owned property, also within these boundaries, located on property legally described as:

"Lots 1 through 40 in S. E. Gross's Addition to Buena Park, being a Subdivision of all that part of Block 2 lying West of the alley running North and South through said Block 2 of Block 6, Laflin, Smith and Dyer's Subdivision in the North East ¼, of Section 20, Township 40 North, Range 14 East of the Third Principal Meridian in Cook County, Illinois."

and commonly known as Nos. 3800, 3802, 3806, 3808, 3810, 3812, 3814, 3818, 3820, 3822, 3824, 3826, 3830, 3832, 3834, 3836, 3838, 3842, 3844, 3846, 3801, 3805, 3807, 3809, 3811, 3813, 3817, 3819, 3821, 3823, 3825, 3827, 3831, 3833, 3835, 3837, 3839, 3843, 3845 and 3847 Alta Vista Terrace, Chicago, Illinois, is hereby designated as a "Chicago Landmark", in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 21, Section 21-64 (f), of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

SECTION 2. The Commission on Chicago Historical and Architectural Landmarks is hereby directed to create a suitable plaque appropriately identifying said landmark and to affix said plaque to the property designated as a Chicago Landmark in accordance with the provisions of Section 21-64 (f), of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

SECTION 3. The Commission on Chicago Historical and Architectural Landmarks is directed to comply with the provisions of Section 21-64 (g), of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect on and after ten days from the date of its due passage and publication.

Site of Fort Dearborn Designated as "Chicago Landmark".

The Committee on Cultural and Economic Development submitted the following report:

CHICAGO, August 6, 1971.

To the President and Members of the City Council:

Your Committee on Cultural and Economic Development, having had under consideration a communication signed by Mr. Samuel A. Lichtmann, Chairman of the Chicago Commission on Historical and Architectural Landmarks (referred to Your Committee on April 22, 1971) to designate the Site of Fort Dearborn as a Chicago Landmark, begs leave to recommend that Your Honorable Body pass the proposed ordinance, which is transmitted herewith, to effect the designation of the Site of Fort Dearborn as a Chicago Landmark.

This recommendation was concurred in unanimously by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) EDWIN P. FIFIELSKI,
Chairman.

On motion of Alderman Fifielski the proposed ordinance transmitted with the foregoing committee report was *Passed,* by yeas and nays as follows:

Yeas—Aldermen Roti, Kenner, Holman, Sawyer, Bohling, Cousins, Adduci, Vrdolyak, Bilandic, Swinarski, Staszcuk, Burke, Lawlor, Langford, Shannon, Hines, Fitzpatrick, Kelley, Stewart, Stemberk, Potempa, Rhodes, Marzullo, Zydlo, Ray, Washington, Filippini, Keane, Gabinski, Sande, Frost, Laskowski, Aiello, Casey, Cullerton, Laurino, Simon, Scholl, Natarus, Singer, Simpson, Fifielski, Cohen, Hoellen, Hedlund, Wigoda, Sperling—47.

Nays—None.

The following is said ordinance as passed:

WHEREAS, The Commission on Chicago Historical and Architectural Landmarks has recommended that the place known as the Site of Fort Dearborn, located in and around the intersection of North Michigan Avenue and East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois, be designated by the City Council as a Chicago Landmark; and

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
County of Cook.) ss.

I, JOHN C. MARCIN, City Clerk of the City of Chicago in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the annexed and foregoing is a true and correct copy of that certain ordinance now on file in my office, to designate the Alta Terrace District as a "Chicago Landmark".

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the said ordinance was passed by the City Council of the said City of Chicago on the fifteenth (15th) day of September, A. D. 19 71 and deposited in my office on the fifteenth (15th) day of September A. D. 19 71.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the vote on the question of the passage of the said ordinance by the said City Council was taken by yeas and nays and recorded in the Journal of the Proceedings of the said City Council, and that the result of said vote so taken was as follows, to wit: Yeas 47, Nays None.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the said ordinance was delivered to the Mayor of the said City of Chicago after the passage thereof by the said City Council, without delay, by the City Clerk of the said City of Chicago, and that the said Mayor failed to return the said ordinance to the said City Council with his written objections thereto at the next regular meeting of the said City Council occurring not less than five days after the passage of the said ordinance.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the said ordinance after the passage thereof by the City Council was printed in pamphlet form, published by authority of the said City Council, on the fifth (5th) day of October, A.D. 1971.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the original, of which the foregoing is a true copy, is entrusted to my care for safe keeping, and that I am the lawful keeper of the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of the City of Chicago aforesaid, at the said City, in the County and State aforesaid, this twenty-seventh (27th) day of January, A. D. 19 72.

[L. S.]

John C. Marcin
City Clerk.

The houses on Alta Vista Terrace were substantially built and have been occupied by substantial families—not necessarily families of wealth or prominence but families who regarded a home as a more or less permanent investment to be enjoyed and cared for. A number of the original owners lived here for the rest of their lives. Among these were the late State Senator and Mrs. Willett Cornwell, the latter of whom only recently (1968) passed away. The Cornwells occupied one of the three-story houses. A current resident of the Terrace, Mrs. Francis C. Pedrick, lives in the house her parents, the Charles Brethauers, purchased as second owners some 50 years ago. According to her, it is generally only through death that one of the houses goes on the market.

PROMINENT CITIZENS

Besides being substantial citizens, the original residents of Alta Vista Terrace apparently formed a friendly, fun-loving group that got together for birthday parties and picnics and composed songs and verse for special occasions. A copy of a souvenir booklet issued on one such occasion in 1911 has been provided by the granddaughter of one of the original residents. She describes the group as "delightful, witty people" and tells how her father, L. W. Hitchcock (who was 12 years old when he moved here with his parents, the P. W. Hitchcocks) loved to describe his first job—that of helping the lamplighter on his Alta Vista rounds every evening.

The present homeowners also speak of the neighborly warmth of Alta Vista Terrace. In 1969, they received an award from the Chicago Beautiful Committee. The award read:

> "Although man-made hardness and naturalness of plant material are at opposite extremes, the above entry [Alta Vista Terrace] illustrates how each can complement the other. The overall effect suggests that building and plant grew together. Minimal planting areas are heavily planted. Textures are abundant. Walls are adorned with vines, and shade trees have naturally taken root at building edge. The pedestrian scale of the street adds to the pleasant feeling, as does the attention paid to the appearance of rear yards, illustrating that urban beautification is not merely a facade but a total event."

The award was certainly deserved, as the houses in general are well cared for, the shrubbery and plantings in the front yards are well tended, and the character of the street has been retained. The houses stand neatly on a neat street, a refreshing breathing-space at the edge of an area increasingly domineered by crowding high rises, truly an oasis in a neighborhood showing in spots the effects of neglect, age, and the inevitable litter and confusion caused by its proximity to Wrigley Field. To walk down such a street—or even just to catch a glimpse of it from the cross-street at either end—is to be transported briefly to a segment of Chicago's past that is worth remembering.

Alta Vista Terrace is a beautiful example of a situation where each house, individually, might not be outstanding but where the street, taken as a whole, is unique in Chicago.

Historic Background:

> "Of those who have contributed so much to the growth of Chicago by offering cheap suburban building sites to all who chose to buy, Samuel Eberly Gross stands easily at the head."

So wrote Joseph and Caroline Kirkland in *The Story of Chicago*, published in 1894. And in the *History of Chicago* edited by Joseph Kirkland and John Moses and published the following year, it was stated that Gross's name had become a household word in "being indissolubly associated in the mind of the public with many great enterprises, which have not only added to the city's greatness, but have also placed comfortable homes within reach of the industrial classes, and have incidentally added to the projector's wealth."

S.E. GROSS.

Equally effusive were other biographical histories published in the 1890s (see BIBLIOGRAPHY).

Certainly the man who evoked these paeans of praise from the biographers of the day was a highly successful and unusually energetic real-estate entrepreneur whose additions and subdivisions and suburbs contributed to the rapid growth of Chicago and the area to the west in the 1880s and 1890s.

Samuel Eberly Gross, born in Dauphin, Pennsylvania, in 1843, was the great-grandson of a captain in the American Revolution. In 1846 he moved with his parents to Illinois. He saw active service in the Civil War and was one of the youngest captains in the Union forces. Mustered out in 1865, he came to Chicago, a city already acquiring a reputation for push and energy.

S.E. GROSS BACKGROUND

Young Gross immediately entered the Union College of Law and was graduated the following year. He bought a few lots on speculation and in 1867 built a few houses on them. This was the beginning of what was to be a spectacular career in real estate.

1867 FIRST HOUSES CONSTRUCTED

During the winter of 1868-69, Gross played a role in the early development of Chicago's parks and boulevard system. At the time of the Chicago Fire of 1871, his law office was at Clark and South Water Streets, and the biographical histories tell of how he threw his legal papers into a rowboat and ran them out to a tug for safekeeping until the holocaust was over.

In the hard times that followed the Panic of 1873, Gross coupled his slowed-down law practice with the study of science, art, literature, and political economy, did some writing, and is said to have patented several of his own inventions. When trade revived, the city began to grow fast again, and he decided to make real estate his business. By the early 1880s he was feverishly engaged in platting subdivisions and operating under a very attractive system—that of building homes for people of modest means and selling them for small down payments and monthly installments.

Gross himself, who had married in 1874, lived in the 1890s in an elegant home on Lake Shore Drive near Division Street.

He was a flamboyant operator who billed himself as "The World's Greatest Real Estate Promoter." Advertising "Easy Payments—Long Time," he offered lots from ~~$100 in his properties~~ for "workingmen" to a top of $2,500 in his most elegant developments. Houses were priced from $1,000 for small cottages to $5,500 for the large, rather ungainly Victorian frames that Gross advertised as "handsome residences and villas."

All of his developments were located on railroad, street railway, or elevated lines. To encourage inspection of some of these developments, Gross ran "Grand Free Inspection Excursions" on "Free Palace Excursion Trains—The Longest Passenger Trains ~~Ever Leaving the Union Depot.~~" And when they reached their destination, the excursionists were protected from the weather by "Large Pavilions with Ample Seating Capacity" and regaled with "Entertaining Speeches."

Flashy salesman though he was, Gross seems to have been honest and decent in his dealings with customers. Both he and his biographers agreed that he had "never been compelled to foreclose a mortgage or sue a purchaser."

To public good will and "superior business methods" Gross attributed his spectacular success. At the height of the land boom in 1890, his firm is said to have sold up to 500 lots a week and transported as many as 3,000 people in 27 railroad cars in one day to inspect his West Side properties. In 1891, Gross served as treasurer of the Chicago Real Estate Board, and by 1894 he had sold 40,000 lots, built and sold 8,000 houses and store buildings and established 18 subdivisions and suburbs. His fortune was variously estimated at 3 to 5 million dollars.

During all this frenzy of buying, selling, and building, Gross, who also served as a director of the Chemical National Bank and the Calumet Electric Railroad, did not neglect his cultural, social, or civic life. He made three trips to Europe, including a visit to the Paris Exposition in 1889, and also traveled to the West Coast, Mexico, and the Orient. He was a patron of the Art Institute of Chicago and various philanthropic societies and a member of several prestigious clubs. He is said to have declined to run for mayor of Chicago when the Workingmen's Society sought to nominate him in 1889.

On top of everything else, Gross was the author of a play that became an international *cause celebre* when he contended that Edmond Rostand's play *Cyrano de Bergerac* had been plagiarized from his own blank-verse comedy, "The Merchant Prince of Cornville," and filed suit in Federal Court. Gross's play, written in the late ~~1870s, was privately~~ printed and copyrighted in 1896, some 13 months before *Cyrano* was first published and produced in Paris. Meanwhile, Gross had sent copies of his manuscript (and later of the printed book) to various actors and theatrical managers here and abroad, including the great actor Richard Mansfield and his manager, A. M. Palmer, and an associate of Palmer in Paris. Although the world laughed when the Chicago real-estate man filed suit in January of 1899 against Mansfield, who had just brought *Cyrano* to Chicago from its American premiere in New York, the Court eventually upheld Gross and enjoined Mansfield from presenting the Rostand play. The injunction held until the 1920s.

It was in 1900, after returning from his first trip to Europe, that Gross bought the block that became Alta Vista Terrace. It appears that as a result of looking at rowhouses in London, he decided to make Alta Vista Terrace as nearly like a block of English rowhouses as possible.

The property was bounded by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad on the west and an alley on the east; to avoid having his houses face either of these, Gross ran a narrow street down the middle of the plat and built a row of houses on each side of it. There was a station called "Verona" at the north end of the Terrace, and Alta Vista residents had their choice of using the commuter trains or the elevated line a short distance to the east.

The biographies do not tell when Gross's bubble burst, but the *Chicago Tribune* news story of his death on October 14, 1913, mentions his having been "trailed night and day" by process servers. He recovered partially, according to the paper, and when he went to live in Battle Creek, Michigan, he had $150,000 to his credit. He had moved to Battle Creek following his marriage to an 18-year-old girl in 1909, less than a month after his divorce from his first wife.

Physical Description of Landmark District:

The district is composed of 40 masonry rowhouses on Alta Vista Terrace (1050 west), 20 on each side of the block-long street, which runs from Grace Street (3800 north) on the south to Byron Street (3900 north) on the north. Each rowhouse is situated on a lot approximately 24 feet wide and 40 feet deep, with brick party walls, 18 inches thick, between them. This gives a continuous facade on each side of the Terrace of approximately 480 feet. The buildings are particularly noteworthy for their unity of scale.

On each side of the street are 18 two-story houses, with 2 three-story houses occupying the middle of each row. Discounting the one facade that has been completely altered, there are 20 different types of facades, and the order in which they occur on one side of the street is repeated on the other side starting from the opposite end—a nice way of achieving variety in repetition.

The interiors of the 36 two-story houses were originally identical, as were those of the 4 three-story houses. The first floor of each house had an entrance hall, stairwell, and kitchen on one side and a living room and dining room on the other. The second floor had four bedrooms and a bathroom. The top floor of the three-story houses was designed to have four additional bedrooms; mention has been made of this top floor having been used as a ballroom in some cases. Each house had a full basement, which contained a furnace room, coal room, and laundry.

When they were first put on the market, Gross advertised the houses as having:

> "...seven to eleven rooms, reception hall, mosaic vestibule, bathroom, large closets, cupboards, stationary refrigerator, laundry, laundry stove, patent clothes drier, and tubular furnace. Handsome console in parlor, richly carved mantel and sideboard in dining-room, combination gas and electric light fixtures, window shades, medicine cabinet, enameled bathtub, tiled floor, and open nickel plumbing. Artistically decorated, oak and mahogany finish and hardwood floors."

Most of the interiors have been extensively altered, and several have been restored or renovated within the last decade.

Although the exteriors of the houses were carefully designed to emphasize individuality rather than sameness, they have many features in common. The facades are of Roman brick in varied earth colors. In many cases, the brick colors of the two corresponding houses on either side of the street are different. Limestone moldings, lintels, and sills, and a great variety of wood and sheet-metal trim in the eclectic motifs popular at the turn of the century, decorate the facades.

With the exception of the northwest and southeast corner houses, all the entrances are on the right, and bay or bow windows project from the left sides of the facades. These projecting windows begin at the basement level; some of them are one-story, others are two-story, but the majority, whether rounded or three-sided, have three window openings at each level. All the basement windows are of the same size and shape, and are topped by flush stone lintels. Each entrance is approached by a short front walk, and each doorway is three steps up from this walk. Originally, each doorway had double entrance doors. Over the years, a few of these have been changed to single doors. In the space between the projecting window and the sidewalk, each house has a tiny yard. Today, many of these little plots are attractively planted, and in some cases surrounded by low fences of decorative wrought iron. The houses on the west side of the street also have small back yards, many of which contain miniature gardens or patios. For these houses on the west side Gross originally charged $800 more than for their counterparts on the east side. The small rear yards may explain the price difference.

In spite of what can be pointed out as general similarities, each facade in either row does have a charm and style of its own. Because the facades, generally, have been so little altered, the street retains much of its original character, charm, and visual unity.

Selected Bibliography:

Album of Genealogy and Biography, Cook County, Illinois. Chicago: Calumet Book and Engraving Company, 1896. pp. 382-385.

Andreas, A. T. *History of Chicago.* Vol. III: *From the Fire of 1871 Until 1885.* Chicago: The A. T. Andreas Company, Publishers, 1886. pp.449, 451.

Bach, Ira J. *Chicago on Foot.* Chicago: Follett Publishing Company, 1969. pp. 239-243.

The Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Representative Men of Chicago, Minnesota Cities and the World's Columbian Exposition. Chicago: American Biographical Publishing Company, 1892. pp. 78-82.

A Biographical History with Portraits of Prominent Men of the Great West. Chicago: Manhattan Publishing Company, 1894-96. pp. 10-13.

Crosby, John Bemer. *William McKinley, The Man of the Hour: Circumstances and Events Whose Combination Forced the Nomination of William McKinley for President.* Outlined by D. Lamb. Privately published, 1896. pp. 43, 48. Contains photograph of Gross and tells of Gross's role in the nomination of McKinley.

Dedmon, Emmett. *Fabulous Chicago.* New York: Random House, 1953. pp. 216-218.

Drury, John. *Old Chicago Houses.* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1941. p. 213.

Encyclopedia of Biography in Illinois. Vol. I. Chicago: Century Publishing and Engraving Company, 1892. pp. 212-214.

Gross, Samuel E. "The Merchant Prince of Cornville." Cambridge, Massachusetts: Privately printed by University Press, 1896.

S. E. Gross, Dealer in City and Suburban Real Estate. Chicago: Undated.

Houses for Sale on Alta Vista Terrace, by S. E. Gross, Sixth Floor, Masonic Temple, State and Randolph Sts., Chicago. Chicago: Undated.

Mayer, Harold M., and Wade, Richard C. *Chicago: Growth of a Metropolis.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969. pp. 155, 174, 263-267.

Hall, Henry, ed. *America's Successful Men of Affairs.* New York: New York Tribune, 1895-96. pp. 353-356.

Kirkland, Joseph, and Kirkland, Caroline. *The Story of Chicago.* Vol. II. Chicago: Dibble Publishing Company, 1894. pp. 369-372.

Kirkland, Joseph, and Moses, John, ed. *History of Chicago, Illinois.* Vols. I & II. Chicago and New York: Munsell & Co., Publishers, 1895.
Vol. I: pp. 551, 753-755, photograph of Gross facing p. 560.
Vol. II: photograph of Gross's home facing p. 586.

Leonard, John W., ed. *The Book of Chicagoans.* Chicago: A. N. Marquis and Company, 1905. pp. 247-248.

Lewis, Lloyd, and Smith, Henry Justin. *Chicago: The History of Its Reputation.* New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1929. pp. 275-276.

Shackleton, Robert. *The Book of Chicago.* Philadelphia: the Penn Publishing Company 1920. pp. 153-154.

Tenth Annual Illustrated Catalogue of S. E. Gross, Famous City Subdivisions and Suburban Towns. Chicago: 1890.

U. S. Department of Interior. *Historic American Buildings Survey.* Washington, D. C.: National Park Service, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, 1960.
One inventory form, including historical data.

PERIODICALS AND NEWSPAPERS:

Chicago Magazine. Mix, Sheldon A. "Boulevards and Quiet Streets: A Street of Forty Doors." Charter Issue, 1964. pp. 42-43.

Chicago Tribune.
"Gross, 'Prince of Cornville,' Dead," October 25, 1913. p. 5.

Hitchcock, L. W. "The Street of Forty Houses," April 10, 1939.

"Residents Work to Make Block Beautiful," August 15, 1963. sec. 2BN, p. 10.

"Street Out of the Past Is Place of Quiet Charm," October 27, 1966. sec. 3A, p. 4.

"2 Landmark Areas Urged by Commission," March 19, 1970.

"Landmark Status OK'd for Hull House, Alta Vista," April 23, 1970.

Daily Inter-Ocean.
"Claims Play," January 6, 1899. pp. 1,4.

"Our Plays and Flag," April 9, 1899.

The Land Owner. Chicago: J. M. Wing and Company, July, 1873. p. 120.

New York Times. "Samuel E. Gross Dies. Real Estate Operator Who Sued Edmond Rostand," October 25, 1913. p. 13.

CITY OF CHICAGO
RICHARD J. DALEY, Mayor

COMMISSION ON CHICAGO HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL LANDMARKS
SAMUEL A. LICHTMANN, Chairman
BARNET HODES, Vice-Chairman
IRA J. BACH, Secretary
JOSEPH BENSON
JEROME BUTLER
CHARLES CUNNINGHAM
JOHN ENTENZA
LEWIS W. HILL
CLEMENT M. SILVESTRO

Room 800 - 320 North Clark Street, Chicago Illinois 60610, Telephone 744-3200